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WASHINGTON IN LITERATURE.

By AINSWORTH RAND SPOFFORD.

(Read before the Society February 10, 1902.)

The beginnings of journalism in Washington mark the earliest native literary productions which have come down to us. Our first newspaper was the *Washington Gazette*, begun June 11, 1796, by Benjamin More. It was published twice a week, had more foreign intelligence than domestic, and having few subscribers in the almost uninhabited wilderness, where the government buildings were then slowly struggling into existence, it stopped publication in less than two years, in 1798. It had to compete with the *Alexandria Gazette*, founded in 1792, as the earliest District of Columbia newspaper, and one that has survived unto this day.

The first Congress in Washington met November 17, 1800, and two weeks before appeared the first number of the *National Intelligencer*, October 31, 1800. The paper was transplanted from Philadelphia by its editor and publisher, Samuel Harrison Smith, and its first number records that the vessel bearing the materials sailed for no less than six weeks, via Delaware River, Chesapeake Bay, and Potomac River, before landing in Washington. First issued tri-weekly, the paper became a daily in 1813, and enjoyed a long, influential, and successful career, until the civil war cut off nearly half its circulation.

In 1810 the *Intelligencer* was sold to Joseph Gales, who two years later formed a partnership with William W. Seaton.

Mrs. Seaton, the sister of Joseph Gales, Jr., Mr. Seaton's partner, was the daughter of Joseph Gales, senior, a journalist at Sheffield, England. That gentleman published the *Sheffield Register*, a liberal journal, which became obnoxious to the government of George, the Third, for printing the free political pamphlets of Thomas Paine. This was in the dark days of 1794, when the trials of Gerald, Horne Tooke, Thelwall and Hardy for high treason occurred, and when Sheares and Robert Emmet were executed. Becoming an exile for opinion's sake, the senior Gales emigrated with his young family to America, settling at the capital of North Carolina, where he founded the *Raleigh Register*. His daughter, Sarah Gales, was liberally educated in Latin, French and Spanish, widely read in English literature, and learned stenography, a rare accomplishment for a woman in that day. She frequently wrote for the press. She was married in 1809 to William W. Seaton, a young Virginian, then twenty-four years of age, who had become a successful journalist at eighteen, in Richmond. Removing to Washington in 1812, Seaton joined his brother-in-law, Gales, in conducting the *National Intelligencer*. They began by acting as their own reporters in the Senate and House of Representatives, and were honored with seats by the side of the Vice President and the Speaker—a signal proof of the confidence and respect which their high character and good judgment inspired. Both Gales and Seaton became mayors of Washington, and that honorable post has been four or five times filled by journalists. About the year 1850 James C. Welling became associate editor with Mr. Seaton of the *Intelligencer*, and continued nearly fifteen years. As a writer, he was both elegant and forcible, conservative, yet broad-minded; a careful scholar, studious of accuracy, despising slang and sensations,

and rejecting innovations in spelling as inventions of the devil.

Peter Force, a man still held in reverent memory in Washington, came here in 1815 as a master printer. He was a careful historical student, and devoted many laborious years to his "American Archives," and to the publication of historical tracts, for which the scholars of America owe him a debt of gratitude. His invaluable library of books, periodicals, and manuscripts became a part of the Library of Congress in 1867.

Among the early Washington papers, one of the most prominent, politically and in a literary sense, was the *National Journal*, founded in 1823 by Colonel Force. It was a vigorous supporter of John Quincy Adams's administration. Its rivalry with the *Intelligencer* was keen, and that paper denounced the *Journal* as largely edited by Mr. Adams and other official persons. That Mr. Adams frequently wrote for it is unquestionably true.

Francis P. Blair, the elder, was a notable figure for nearly fifty years in this Capital. Born in Virginia and acquiring reputation in Kentucky as a vigorous editorial writer, he removed here in 1830 to take charge of the *Globe*, established as the Jackson administration organ. Started without a dollar of capital as a semi-weekly, with the sharp rivalry of the dailies (the *National Intelligencer* and Duff Green's *Telegraph*) it became highly important to issue it as a daily. Mr. Blair had no money, but called on some friends of President Jackson, who subscribed and paid in advance for 600 *Daily Globes* for one year at \$10, and by this aid it got the needful machinery and became a daily paper in 1831. Mr. Blair used to say, with a dry humor peculiar to him, that the *Daily Globe*, like the globe which we inhabit, was created out of nothing. In 1833 it secured the

lucrative printing of the *Congressional Globe*, as reporter of debates, which continued, with Blair and Rives and successors as proprietors, for forty years, until succeeded by the *Congressional Record*, published by the government directly at the office of the Public Printer since 1873.

Mr. Blair was a recognized power in politics, and his wide knowledge of men and talent for management (not always discreetly exercised) gave him even more prominence than his abilities as an editor. His hospitable country seat at Silver Spring, on the edge of the District, entertained many public men. He was addicted to long rides on horseback, and I often met him with his venerable wife, mounted like himself, when both were over eighty years of age, riding long distances on our leafy suburban roads in the fair summer weather. He died in 1876, aged eighty-five.

Duff Green was a Washington journalist of much note sixty years since. From 1826 to 1835 he edited the *United States Telegraph*, opposing J. Q. Adams's administration, supporting Jackson, turning against that President in 1830 (by which he lost the public printing, valued at \$50,000 a year), advocating Clay for President in 1832, and Calhoun in 1836, a very Ishmaelite in politics. Green was a forcible rather than an elegant writer, and easily made enemies. He owned a great block of houses known as "Duff Green's row," on First street, opposite the Capitol, which were swept away in 1887 to make room for the new Library building. Like Francis P. Blair, he walked the streets of Washington, in later life, with a long staff like an alpenstock, instead of a cane. It is a notable fact that three editors, Duff Green, F. P. Blair and Amos Kendall, all came here from Kentucky.

Amos Kendall, an early Washington journalist, came

here with the Jackson administration in 1829, and after becoming Postmaster-General and retiring from the Cabinet, published in 1841-44 a bi-weekly called *Kendall's Expositor*. This paper, he records, did not yield an income one-half sufficient for the support of his family. He became associated with Professor Morse in the newly invented electric telegraph, made a fortune, and in 1857 founded the Columbia Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, which, with its hundred acres, still known as "Kendall Green," perpetuates the name of Kendall. He wrote an autobiography, and began a "Life of Andrew Jackson," of which only six pamphlet numbers were published.

Thomas Ritchie, the famous editor for forty years of the Richmond *Enquirer*, removed to Washington in 1845, founded the *Daily Union*, and edited it until 1851. He died in 1854, aged seventy-six. He was a gentleman of the old school, and was widely known as "Father Ritchie."

Dr. Gamaliel Bailey, editor of the *National Era*, was a clear and persuasive writer, and his weekly paper, established in Washington in 1849 in advocacy of anti-slavery principles, had much influence, which was many fold increased when "Uncle Tom's Cabin" appeared in its columns in 1851, and became a little later a world-famous book. Rufus Choate said of it that it "made a million abolitionists."

Among the *National Era's* literary contributors were Whittier, Lowell, Sumner, Mrs. L. M. Child, Mrs. Stowe, Grace Greenwood, Mrs. Southworth, Edward E. Hale, Alice Cary, John Pierpont, Salmon P. Chase, Wendell Phillips, Henry B. Stanton and Gail Hamilton. Dr. Bailey died in 1859 on a voyage to Europe, having conducted his paper here twelve years.

I come now to note a woman author and editor who

for a quarter of a century figured in Washington. I mean Mrs. Anne Royall. Born in Maryland in 1769, she was stolen by Indians in childhood, and lived fifteen years among them, which may have given a certain flavor of wildness to her later conduct and writings. She married Captain Royall, a Revolutionary soldier, and was left a poor widow with no means of support but her brains. She began by making a tour of New York and New England, writing a fairly interesting description of the towns and the people, printed in an anonymous book, "Sketches of History, Life, and Manners in the United States," in 1826. Then she traveled over Pennsylvania, Virginia, etc., always by stage conveyance, writing constantly an endless stream of gossip descriptions of persons and places, and supporting herself by subscriptions to her books of travel at one dollar a volume. So indefatigable was her industry that she produced eleven volumes in five years, being her own publisher, author and subscription agent.

Mrs. Royall was fifty-six years of age before she became a writer. Ending her travels and her books when she came to anchor in Washington in 1831, she started that year a weekly journal called *Paul Pry*. It was a curious mixture of politics, personalities, anti-church screeds, and slang. She styled the venerable Joseph Gales of the *National Intelligencer*, "Joe" or "brother Joe;" and when the *Washington Globe* called her a "petticoat editor," she retorted that "a petticoat patriot is at least equal to a trouserloon traitor."

Mrs. Royall thus records her opinion of journalists: "Editors are the most feeling and generous class of men in our country, and the worst rewarded in proportion to their deserts. They toil at the oar, night and day, to improve, instruct, and amuse mankind. If it were not for them the world would revert back to barbarism."

Amos Kendall notes in his journal that Mrs. Royall was introduced to him as one editor to another, whereupon she exclaimed: "I love the editors!" He saw a book in her lap, and asked: 'Mrs. Royall, is that your last publication?' 'Yes.' 'What is your price?' 'I make members of Congress pay me a dollar, but I sell it to other gentlemen for seventy-five cents.' "I handed her the money and took the book. Thus, cheaply, I purchased my way into the good graces of Anne Royall."

In person Mrs. Royall was tall and angular, with a not unkindly face, though rather hard-featured, with a self-asserting manner. She always wore a clean calico gown, with a cord and tassel round the waist, and immense balloon sleeves. She was the terror of Congressmen, who would often turn down side streets when Mrs. Royall's formidable poke-bonnet loomed up on the horizon, fearful of being solicited to buy her travels, or to subscribe to her paper. That she was regarded as a horrid creature by many is most true; but it is equally true that Anne Royall made many friends wherever she went, and that she was not without kindness and even charity. The world's judgment of erratic persons who become prominent in any age is apt to be severe; but a more impartial judgment holds in fair balance the good and the evil in human character, and refuses to condemn too harshly the struggling and industrious woman, who, in a ruder age than ours, conquered adversity and ate her hard-earned bread in the sweat of her brow.

It has been asserted that Anne Royall was the first woman journalist; but as Cornelia Walter was for years an editor on the Boston *Evening Transcript* prior to 1834, and Mrs. J. B. Colvin published the *Maryland Weekly Messenger* in 1817, the statement is incorrect.

Moreover, I find no less than five widows of American journalists who published newspapers, and some of whom wrote for their journals, in the century before the last.

The unusual longevity of many Washington journalists is worthy of notice here. Ritchie lived to 76 years, Blair to 85, Force to 78, Gales to 74, Seaton to 81, Duff Green to 81, Kendall to 80, and Anne Royall to 85.

One woman journalist there was, of conspicuous ability, who conducted a weekly paper in Washington for five years. This was Kate Field, a woman of engaging personality, keen perceptions, and a trenchant and often picturesque style. Independent to the very verge of audacity, she made mistakes—a failing not wholly unknown to men, and even (saving this presence) to women; but her high ambitions, broad views, untiring industry, fine humor, and companionable qualities left a palpable void when, in 1896, she departed from the world.

Indissolubly connected with the history of the national capital are the many published works of national importance here produced. There is hardly any department of science which is unrepresented in the long roll of publications by the government of the United States. Let me name some of the subjects thus illustrated: Geographical explorations, the ethnology of the continent, voyages round the world, astronomical discoveries, measurements of heights and of distances, diseases of animals, surveys of lands, military and naval tactics, systems of education, observations of planets and eclipses, the ravages of insects, the bibliography of meteorology, geological surveys of vast extent and volume, reports on American libraries, the census of the United States, the progress of the industrial arts, the development of American agriculture, the reports of

monetary commissions, digests of international law, the penal codes of all nations, labor in foreign countries, the fisheries of the world, the geographical distribution of birds, our commerce and navigation, medical and surgical history of the Civil War, documentary history of the same eventful period, Atlantic and Pacific coast pilots, nautical almanacs for navigators, the traffic in intoxicating liquors, the navies of the world, the art of gunnery, volumes on irrigation, marriage and divorce statistics, forestry science, history and characteristics of the Indian tribes, mineral resources and development, the history of the capital of the United States, education in fine art and decorative art, railway development, wages at home and abroad, customs, tariffs, inter-oceanic canals, and a multitude of other subjects, by far too numerous to be cited here, have been treated in these government publications.

While belonging mostly to the literature of science, the numerous government publications can receive only a cursory notice of the principal writers' names, all of whom have been residents of Washington. They include among others the following well-known authors: Bache, Henry, Baird, Hassler, Maury, Schoolcraft, Gilliss, Peirce, Fremont, Nicollet, Hayden, Pumpelly, King, Powell, Hilgard, Dutton, Newcomb, Billings, Mallery, Riley, Langley, Goode, Mendenhall, Gill, Raymond, Greely, Bell, Gannett, Walker, McGee, Holden, Harris, Ward, Coues, Humphreys, Wright, Wheeler, Walcott, Day, Wilson, Mason, Ridgway, Abbe, Emmons, Hague, Hall, Vasey, Thomas, Blake, Otis, Howard, Clarke, Sternberg, Taylor, Nourse, Rhees, Woodward, Dall, Mooney, Holmes, Cushing, Ferrell, Merriam, Merrill, North, Cross, True, Wines, Bigelow, Willis, Becker, Hodge, Hyde, Wiley, and a host of others.

In short, the publications of the United States at

Washington may be said to have illuminated almost every field of research in science, so far as its practical relations are concerned.

Almost all of the notable books put forth in these varied fields are the product of the last fifty years, and the larger share of them of the last twenty-five. The earlier explorations of this government were not published at Washington, but elsewhere. The reports of Lewis and Clark's Western expedition to the Pacific in 1805, of Pike's expedition to the sources of the Mississippi in 1806, and of Long's expedition to the Rocky Mountains in 1819 were all published at Philadelphia between 1810 and 1823. The earliest reports of geographical explorations actually printed in Washington which I have found were Col. Fremont's expedition to the Rocky Mountains (1843), and Nicollet's report on the Upper Mississippi River, also printed here in 1843. The evolution to be remarked from the dingy, coarse paper, worn type, and slovenly binding of these early examples of Washington book manufacture, to the elegantly finished work now turned out here is not more striking than the evolution from the crude and unscientific topographic observations of sixty years ago to the precision and research which satisfy the exactions of modern science.

These earliest specimens of the Washington printers' work, as employed upon records of government explorations, were soon followed by Emory's Mexican Boundary Report, 3 vols. (1848); Herndon and Gibbons's Exploration of the River Amazon, 2 vols. (1853); Marcy's Exploration of the Red River (1854); Gilliss's U. S. Astronomical Expedition to Chili and the Southern Hemisphere, 4 vols. (1855); Perry's Expedition to Japan, 3 vols. (1856); and the long series of Pacific Railway Explorations in 13 volumes, from 1855 to 1860.

These all preceded in point of time the foundation of a Public Printing Office, owned and operated by the government, in 1860.

I come now to notice, with extreme brevity, some of the Washington writers of historical or literary works. Samuel Blodget stands earliest on the list, having published in 1801 what is believed to have been the first book printed in America on economic science. It was entitled "Thoughts on the Increasing Wealth and National Economy of the United States," signed "Observer," and bore the imprint, "City of Washington, printed by Way & Groff, North E street, near the post-office, 1801." This work of forty pages, with a folded "Statistical Table" annexed, is one of the earliest books, if not the earliest, printed in Washington.

Joel Barlow, author of that epic poem, "The Columbiad," printed at Philadelphia in 1807, and of several political works, was a resident of Washington from 1807 to 1811, where he owned a fine estate which he called "Kalorama."

David B. Warden wrote the first systematic book on the District of Columbia, and printed it at Paris, where he was American consul, in 1816. It was entitled "Chorographical and Statistical Description of the District of Columbia," and was illustrated by a map.

Of books which contain descriptive or historical accounts of Washington, the name is legion. Next after Warden's book in importance came Jonathan Elliot's notable volume, "Historical Sketches of the Ten Miles Square Forming the District of Columbia," published in 1830. This book is the source from which many subsequent Guide Books to Washington have been drawn, its full documentary history being abridged in every form. Elliot was a journalist of indefatigable industry as writer and compiler. He edited and published the

Washington *Gazette* from 1815 to 1826, and besides his history of the District of Columbia, he compiled no less than ten large volumes on political, diplomatic, and economic science. These were (1) "The Diplomatic Code of the United States," a collection of treaties and conventions between the United States and foreign powers from 1778 to 1827, republished and continued to 1834, in two volumes, under the title of "The American Diplomatic Code." This elaborate work was the first published collection of American treaties, and is not even yet superseded, because it contains in addition valuable summaries of U. S. Supreme Court decisions on points of international law, a diplomatic manual, as to the powers and privileges of foreign ministers, Consular instructions, correspondence of diplomatic agents, etc.

(2) "Debates, Resolutions, and Proceedings in Convention on the Adoption of the Federal Constitution" in Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, Maryland, New York, Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina, with the Journal and Debates of the Federal Convention, held at Philadelphia from the 14th of May to the 17th of September, 1787; 4 vols, Washington, 1827-30. This elaborate book was the earliest, as it still remains one of the most important contributions to the political history of the United States. Elliot gathered the scattered materials of the controversy over the Constitution in the various States in which the debates had been preserved. He added to these in 1845 the whole of the "Madison Papers," being that statesman's report of the debates in the Federal convention, taken down by his own hand, and without which we should have had no record of that ever-memorable discussion of the fathers of the Constitution, who sat in secret session. These compilations of Elliot

have served as the political arsenal from which several generations of Congressmen have drawn their weapons of attack and defense in party warfare.

(3) "The Funding System of the United States," Washington, 1845. This thick volume of 1,323 pages forms the earliest considerable report on comparative national finance ever made. It is a full history of the Revolutionary and subsequent debts of the United States, the Dutch and French loans, sinking funds, etc., with an account of the British funding system and national debt, and those of other nations.

Prior to his entrance upon Washington journalism and authorship, Mr. Elliot had a remarkable and adventurous career. Born in England (like another Washington journalist, Joseph Gales, who was born in 1786, while Jonathan Elliot was born in 1784) Elliot emigrated to New York at about eighteen years of age, where he obtained employment in a printing office. When the war for South American independence broke out in 1810, Elliot, who cherished an ardent love of liberty, volunteered under General Bolivar, the liberator of Spanish America, fought bravely for the independence of New Granada (now the Republic of Colombia) and was seriously wounded. In the surrender of Gen. Miranda to the Spaniards in 1812, Elliot was taken prisoner, and cruelly treated as a captive, but finally in 1813 got back to the United States, and again volunteered in the army then engaged in fighting England. In 1814, he settled in Washington.

Among the many authors of books who have been residents of Washington, may be summarily mentioned Robert Mayo, who wrote a large volume on "The Treasury Department; Its Origin and Operations," and works on geography, astronomy and mythology; Thomas Law, a pioneer settler, author of "Thoughts on Instinctive

Impulses," and many writings on public policy and finance; Augustus B. Woodward, who wrote "Considerations on the Government of the Territory of Columbia," 1801; Francis S. Key, long resident here, author of "The Star Spangled Banner" and a volume of poems; George W. Cutter, poet, and author of "The Song of Steam;" George Watterston, Librarian of Congress from 1815 to 1829, who wrote three volumes of sketches, descriptive of public men of his day, and several stories; Joseph B. Varnum, who published "The Washington Sketch Book" and "The Seat of Government of the United States." Peter Force, whose laborious historical researches were invaluable, produced nine folio volumes of the American Archives, and many pamphlets on historical subjects. George Bancroft spent the last fifteen years of a serene old age in Washington, from 1875 to 1890, writing here his "History of the Formation of the Constitution," and the complete revision of his "History of the United States." He died at the age of ninety years.

I continue to note George W. Samson, author of "Elements of Art Criticism" and other works; Samuel Tyler, biographer of Chief Justice Taney, and writer on philosophy and literature; Nathan Sargent, an early press correspondent, who wrote two volumes on "Public Men and Events;" Charles Lanman, a copious writer of books of travel, biography, and miscellany; Albert Pike, poet, and author of books on Freemasonry and law; Charles D. Drake, law and miscellaneous writer; Joseph M. Toner, who wrote copiously on history, hygiene, etc.; Charles Nordhoff, author of "The Communistic Societies of the United States" and tales of sea life; Charles B. Boynton, author of a history of the navy, two volumes, and other works; his son, Henry V. Boynton, who wrote "Sherman's Historical Raid,"

etc.; Moncure D. Conway, a cosmopolitan author, once pastor of a church in Washington; William H. Channing, a Washington pastor and chaplain in Congress, and an extensive writer; George W. P. Custis, writer of "Recollections of Washington;" George Wood, author of "Peter Schlemihl in America," etc.; Clement M. Butler, author of six or eight books on religion and ethics; F. Colburn Adams, who wrote "Manuel Pereira," "The Siege of Washington," etc.; Henry Barnard, a copious writer upon education; Edwin De Leon, author of "Thirty Years of My Life on Three Continents," etc.; Louis A. Gobright, who wrote "Recollections of Men and Things at Washington;" Ralph R. Gurley, who wrote several biographies and a book on African colonization; Franklin B. Hough, author of many historical and miscellaneous works; Winslow M. Watson, who wrote the life of Benjamin Ogle Tayloe; Peter Parker, whose letters and other writings illustrate early American intercourse with China; John W. Forney, who wrote "Anecdotes of Public Men," etc.; John P. Newman, a copious writer of travels, etc.; Benjamin G. Lovejoy, who wrote a "Life of Francis Bacon;" John W. Hoyt, a writer upon educational topics and a national university; Hugh McCulloch, author of "Men and Measures of Half a Century;" John J. Knox, who wrote several books on American currency and banking; Edmund Hudson, author of a memoir of Mary Clemmer; Frederick Douglass, author of "My Bondage and My Freedom;" George C. Hazelton, Jr., writer of "The National Capitol," and of fiction and drama; De B. Randolph Keim, copious writer of Washington hand-books and other works; Randolph H. McKim, author of "Leo XIII." and other writings; David J. Hill, whose books on rhetoric, biography, and social questions number many volumes; Mrs. Emma D. E.

N. Southworth, whose many novels were mostly written in Georgetown. Continuing, note the names of Mary Clemmer, author of "Ten Years in Washington" and other volumes of prose and poetry; Horatio King, who wrote "Sketches of Travel" and "Turning on the Light;" William T. Sherman, author of memoirs by himself; Ben. Perley Poore, a veteran journalist, author of "Reminiscences of Sixty Years," etc.; Robert B. Warden, who wrote "Private Life of Salmon P. Chase" and other books; Samuel S. Cox, whose "Winter Sunbeams" and other works are well known; John Sherman, author of "Recollections of Forty Years," etc.; Caleb Cushing, long resident here and writer of several books; Mary A. Denison, a copious writer of books of fiction; Joaquin Miller, several of whose books were written here; Edward McPherson, compiler of the "Political History of the Rebellion," "History of Reconstruction," and the long series of "Political Text Books," from 1870 to 1894; William A. Hammond, a copious writer of books on medical science and of novels; John J. Piatt, who wrote "The Nests at Washington" and many volumes of poems; Charles C. Nott, author of "Sketches of the War," "The Seven Great Mediæval Hymns," etc; John F. Hurst, author of "Indika," "Literature of Theology," and volumes on ecclesiastical history; Edward D. Neill, who wrote "Terra Mariæ," "The Virginia Company," and many other historical works; David D. Porter, author of "History of the Navy," "Allan Dare," and a series of novels; Harriet T. Upton, who wrote "Our Early Presidents," etc.; W. B. Webb, historical and law writer; Philip H. Sheridan, whose "Personal Memoirs" form two bulky volumes; Julia Seaton, author of "William W. Seaton, a Memoir;" Isabella Alden, whose many stories under the name of "Pansy" are well known;

Frederick A. Ober, author of many books of travel; Elizabeth B. Johnston, author of "Original Portraits of Washington," "Washington, Day by Day," and a recent volume of stories; A. W. Pitzer, who wrote "Ecce Deus Homo" and other religious works; T. H. McKee, compiler of works on Protection, Inaugurations, writer; Lester F. Ward, author of "Dynamic Sociology" and several other works in philosophy and science; Alice C. Fletcher, who wrote "Studies of Indian Music" and other writings on the American Indian tribes; W. W. Rockhill, author of "Life of the Buddha" and travels in the East; James M. Sterrett, who wrote "Studies in Hegel," etc.; William L. Shoemaker, author of a book on the Indian Weed, and poems; Ellis H. Roberts, who wrote a History of New York State and "Government Revenue;" Daniel Ammen, author of "Country Homes" and works on the American Navy; Frank W. Hackett, who wrote "Gavel and Mace," a Memoir of W. A. Richardson, etc.; Oliver O. Howard, author of "Isabella of Castile" and other works; Frederic Bancroft, whose "Life of William H. Seward" has recently appeared; David G. Adeë, author of several works of fiction; Alvey A. Adeë, a critical writer upon Shakespeare, etc.; George C. Gorham, author of the Life of Edwin M. Stanton; Mary I. Taylor, writer of several recent novels; William H. Babcock, a fruitful writer of romances, etc.; Henry C. Bolton, whose many contributions to bibliography and chemistry are well known; Frank G. Carpenter, author of travels in Asia, South America, etc.; Alexander P. Morse, who wrote an elaborate "Treatise on Citizenship," and other works; Nelson A. Miles, author of "Military Europe," etc.; George L. Raymond, who wrote "Painting, Sculpture and Architecture," and many other works on the

fine arts; Alex. Melville Bell, author of "Principles of Speech," and books on Visible Speech and Elocution; Alexander Graham Bell, who wrote "Facts and Opinions relating to the Deaf" and many essays on scientific topics; Augustus G. Heaton, author of "The Heart of David," etc.; Simon Newcomb, who wrote "His Wisdom the Defender," and many scientific books; William E. Curtis, author of "The True Thomas Jefferson," etc.; Marshall Cushing, who wrote "The Story of the American Post Office;" John G. Bourke, author of "The Apache Campaign," "Snake Dance of the Moquis," etc.; George Kennan, author of two notable works on Siberia, etc.; William T. Harris, author of "The Spiritual Sense of Dante's 'Divina Commedia'" and many writings on philosophy and education; Richard Hovey, writer of several dramatic and poetic works; Harriet Riddle Davis, who wrote "In Sight of the Goddess" and other stories; Mary S. Lockwood, author of "Historic Homes in Washington;" Jeanie Gould Lincoln, who wrote "A Genuine Girl" and other stories; Samuel C. Busey, author of "Pictures of the City of Washington in the Past" and other works; Madeleine Vinton Dahlgren, writer of many volumes of fiction; Walt Whitman, who wrote several of his books in Washington; John G. Nicolay, who wrote the standard biography of Abraham Lincoln; John Hay, joint author of that work, and the poet of "Pike County Ballads," and author of "Castilian Days," etc.; Sara J. Clarke Lippincott, author of many volumes of literary and personal sketches and a book of poems; Henry Adams, author of "History of the United States," etc.; John Burroughs, whose volumes of essays on rural subjects and the kingdoms of nature bear much of the flavor and charm of our Washington suburbs; Donn Piatt, the trenchant critic of military heroes and

public men in civil life; Anna H. Dorsey and Ella Loraine Dorsey, whose stories number many volumes; James E. Rankin, author of books of poems and of essays in prose, as well as a copious musical composer; James W. Davidson, author of "Living Writers of the South" and other books; Mary J. Safford, writer of many translations from the French and German; Olive Risley Seward, who wrote "W. H. Seward's Travels Around the World" and other books; Stephen J. Field, author of "Personal Reminiscences of Early Days in California" and other writings; Anna L. Dawes, who wrote "How We Are Governed" and a "Life of Charles Sumner"; Robert Fletcher, a graceful writer of literary and scientific essays; Albert G. Riddle, author of many books of fiction, and a memoir of Benjamin F. Wade; Edward M. Gallaudet, author of a "Manual of International Law" and other works; Eliza R. Scidmore, who has brought Alaska and the countries of the Orient near to us by her graphic books of travel; Florence A. Merriam, writer of books upon birds, etc.; Thomas Nelson Page, writer of many books of Southern life and dialect stories; Frances Hodgson Burnett, one of the most widely read writers of fiction; Molly Elliott Seawell, whose books of biography and novels are among the most recent publications; I. Edwards Clarke, author of "Art and Industrial Education," etc.; Caroline H. Dall, author of "College, Market, and Court" and many works of literary criticism; Edward D. Townsend, author of "Anecdotes of the Civil War"; Maurice F. Egan, author of poems, novels, and literary criticism; Frank Sewall, writer of books of story and miscellanies; George Alfred Townsend, author of "Washington Outside and Inside" and many volumes of story and song; Julia Schayer, writer of several books of stories; Stephen B. Weeks, writer on education, etc.; Lafayette

C. Loomis, author of "Index Guide to Travel and Art Study in Europe"; Edward A. Fay, author of the "Concordance to the Works of Dante" and of many writings on deaf-mutism; Ednah Clarke Hayes, a poet-author of recent note; Charles W. Stoddard, author of several stories and of voyages and travels; John W. Foster, whose book on "A Century of American Diplomacy" has recently appeared; Jeremiah Curtin, author of "Myths of the Slavs," "Hero Tales of Ireland," and translator of "Quo Vadis?" and other Polish novels; J. L. M. Curry, who has written "Constitutional Government in Spain" and other works; Clara Barton, author of the "History of the Red Cross"; Marcus Benjamin, writer on historical subjects; William Birney, author of "James G. Birney and His Times"; John A. Kasson, a copious writer on diplomacies and constitutional history; Mrs. John A. Logan, who wrote "Thirty Years in Washington," and Allen C. Clark, author of the recent thorough historical monograph "Greenleaf and Law in the Federal City."

We must add to the roll of authors many whose official life in Washington was long enough to entitle them to notice. Out of twenty-three Presidents who resided here thirteen have written books—Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, both the Adamses, Van Buren, Buchanan, Lincoln, Grant, Garfield, Harrison, McKinley, and Roosevelt. Among Cabinet officers who were authors may be named Livingston, Legare, Gallatin, Wirt, Rush, Paulding, Cass, Kennedy, Everett, Davis, Thompson, Blaine, Boutwell and Long.

Quite a number of the ministers of foreign countries who have been residents in Washington have been contributors to literature. Sir Augustus G. Foster, Minister of Great Britain in 1811, wrote some individual and amusing sketches of Washington life in the time of President Madison, which were privately printed.

Monsieur Bacourt, who represented France in 1840–42, wrote a book entitled “Souvenirs of a Diplomat,” printed posthumously in 1882. He was not well satisfied with his “exile” in Washington, and wrote like a *blasé* Parisian of the Boulevard des Italiens, condemned to live for two years in a semi-barbarous country. He naïvely asserts that in America “almost all the more distinguished gentlemen are journalists,” but then he gravely informs us in another place that “almost all Americans carry daggers in their pockets.”

G. T. Poussin, French minister in 1848, wrote three well-considered volumes upon the constitution and power of the United States, and others upon American public works and internal improvements.

Señor D. F. Sarmiento, minister here of the Argentine Republic, published many volumes of historical and miscellaneous writings.

Señor Felipe Molina, minister from Costa Rica, wrote several treatises on Costa Rica and her boundaries.

Baron Kurd von Schlözer, ambassador from Germany to Washington in 1876–7, wrote a biography of Frederick the Great, of Prussia.

Manuel Larrainzar, who represented the Mexican Republic in 1852, published several works on international questions.

The Russian minister here in 1819, Mr. de Poletica, published in French and English a work on the internal condition of the United States.

José A. de Paez, minister of Venezuela in 1860, published his Autobiography in 1867.

The lamented Matias Romero, minister for twenty years of the Mexican Republic, was an industrious writer upon financial and economic subjects, publishing more than twelve volumes in English or Spanish during his embassy here.

Don Luis de Onis, minister of Spain from 1809 to 1819, wrote much upon international questions.

Sir Stratford Canning, British minister in 1820–23, wrote letters and journals of his diplomatic service, published in two volumes in 1888.

Sir Henry Lytton Bulwer, British minister in 1850–51, wrote a memoir of Palmerston and other works.

The Washington contributions to the literature of the law have been copious and important, but cannot here be entered upon.

Perhaps you will concur with me that the list of authors whom I have cited, however incomplete, is enough to prove that the literature of Washington is not unprolific in the number or the value of its productions. Outside of the notable galaxy of New England writers which adorned the latter half of the nineteenth century, and the last of whom passed away with Oliver Wendell Holmes, what city can furnish a more fruitful list of writers of books?